

Earth First! Action Update

Issue 63 November 1999

"We live, we happy smelly live... History will treat us kindly."

COLUMBUS - YA BASTA!

While Latin American and Spanish heads of state celebrated the "discovery" of the Americas on October 12th, hundreds of other groups across the world organised protests to highlight the reality of the conquest: over 500 years of profit, plunder and oppression. Indigenous groups like the Zapatista communities in Chiapas, Mexico, are resisting the latest form of colonialism.

Multi-national corporations who are more concerned with the appearance of political stability and financial profit than the livelihoods of the Chiapaneco people are the new Columbus, perpetuating the colonial drive for cheap labour, extraction of resources, promotion of Western products and collaboration with local elites.

ACTION 1

To mark Columbus day, Latin American ballroom dancers took to the forecourt of auditors KPMG in Bristol. As the dancers ruffled their pink feathers and ran through their steps 'The Eastern Cowboys', who recently returned from playing football with the Zapatistas, kicked a ball about. When activists were asked by the police to explain what their next move was the dancers responded with an in-depth account of what dance steps would be following.

A banner proclaiming "Our resistance will be as transnational as capital" was hung from the roof of KPMG. Meanwhile staff inside were treated to an office occupation. Activists succeeded in entering the building undetected. One group headed for the roof, while a second group leafleted workers before being ejected from the building by police. Workers were reluctant to discuss the companies dealings with Nestle, Aerospace and Zeneca. After three hours ac-

tivists, footballers and dancers left.

The group then blockaded the newly es-



tablished Nestle cafe in the Broadmead shopping centre. A banner was placed in front of the cafe and coffees were paid for with monopoly money. Leaflets, monopoly money and dodgy share certificates were given out to the customers. Two activists managed to scale the outside of the Broadmead centre with a banner and could be heard by all who entered the shopping Mall explaining why they were there. Police finally moved people after half an hour threatening arrests for obstruction.

ACTION 2

Activists in Newcastle visited their local Nestle factory. While some blockaded the entrance with a banner reading "Solidarity Is Strength", others walked through the gates towards the offices. One perturbed security guard tried to catch up with them, and was especially irate when three women entered the sweet factory, "breaking health and safety regulations" and "putting themselves at risk". After giving leaflets entitled "Nestle and Columbus: Partners in Crime" to workers and slipping others into the company's newsletters. They demanded to speak to the factory manager. In response to his comment that they had no right to

The Monthly Round up of
Ecological, and Other, Direct
Action from Around Britain

Earth First! is not a cohesive group or campaign, but a smelly banner for people who share similar deadlocks to work under. The general principles behind the name are non-hierarchical organisation and the use of special law to confront, stop and eventually reverse the forces that are responsible for the destruction of the Earth and its inhabitants.

"just wander onto the site and do whatever we liked", they reminded him that this is exactly what Nestle is doing in Chiapas and hundreds of other countries around the world. The cars on site were also leafleted, including a police car.

ACTION 3

At 5.30 in the morning, a visit was paid to the financial director of Nestle UK in York to have a chat about the situation in Chiapas. Unfortunately, his wife answered the door and insisted this was no longer his address. The group left and headed to the main factory in the UK, a mile or so from the house. Some activists had already entered the factory. A fire alarm was set off, and leaflets explaining the situation in Chiapas and also encouraging sabotage action were given to workers inside the complex. A banner was held with Nestle: Out of Chiapas written on it. Police arrived and warned the group not to visit the house of the financial director again or the group would be arrested. Some of the group decided to make a run for it into the complex and got into the main office building and padlocked the main entrance with Nestle's own padlock, causing some tailback and hopefully delay of work, although it wasn't long before they opened it again. The group decided to leave at about 9.30.

ALSO...

A 60-strong demonstration chanted slogans at the US Embassy in London, in protest at its state-sponsored terror in Latin America.

The Zapatistas have called for a continental gathering in Belém, Brazil, this December. The host organisers welcome all European groups to take part in the Encuentro. Details from: www.efn.org

The EFAU is written by activists as a networking tool for activists. A different collective takes on its editorship for a year at a time, in line with EFAU's non-hierarchical principles. If you have done an action, set up a new group, or want to tell people about a campaign, then send us an article (maximum 150 words). It doesn't matter if it seems small to you; stories of 3 people sitting on a digger are sometimes the most inspiring especially to people who aren't part of a large group. The feature pages are also available for longer articles which will provide useful information for activists in the UK.

News in Brief

• Chinese President Jiang Zemin's state visit was disrupted by Free Tibet and other human rights groups. Police tried as hard as possible to prevent the President seeing anything offensive – banners and flags were confiscated and several arrests were made. Free Tibet's campaign director commented 'It is clear that the Chinese government's most successful export has been its methods of suppressing free speech.'

• In Finland on 26.9.99 the main Finnish road building office was burnt down in Porvoo, about 40 km east of Helsinki.

• About eight hundred concerned citizens protested on 15th October against the development of a Fortress Europe. The demonstration was part of the International Counter-Summit held in Tampere, Finland which aimed at creating more co-operation between non-governmental grassroots organisations in Europe. Two protesters were arrested, one for trying to improve one of the EU flags.

• After a 3 week trial, 3 women from Trident Roughenave 2000 were acquitted of causing criminal damage to a Trident laboratory. The sheriff instructed the jury to acquit as the women had shown that Trident could be illegal and the women themselves had lawful excuse. The CPS is appealing to a higher court, but if upheld then this decision could start a precedent. A Tory spokesman said that the judgement would 'discourage pacifist theories'.

• URGENT AGENDA FOR EFI WINTER MOOD

Preparations for this winter mood are under. There has been some response to a call for agenda contributions but we want as many people's thoughts and ideas on this as possible. The last winter mood was a response to a particular sense of crisis in the EFI network, and this year there is no obvious topics to be working on. We demand people's thoughts on this! Please email wintermood@yahoo.com with suggestions, by December 10th. The next meeting will be in Manchester. Ring Manc EFI for details nearer the time.

• Southampton has a new squat café!
Platform
C/o 8, Kent House
Karl Street
Southampton
Email: platform6@sangline.com

• On 9th September an anonymous tip-off alerted Falcater peace camp that the MoD computer system had failed, making for easy access to the base. Three are facing malicious mischief and breach of bye-laws charges.

INCINERATOR CLIMBING

There are plans afoot in Newcastle-upon-Tyne to expand a rubbish-burning incinerator from processing 25,000 tonnes of crap a year to 280,000 tonnes. People who live near the incinerator in Byker all hate the stench and dust which it spews out, so of course they weren't asked about it. A local group, Campaign Against Incinerating Rubbish (CAIR) has been set up. To publicise the issue, on 26th October a group of people in white costumes climbed up onto a platform fifty feet up the incinerator, and unveiled large banners which read 'Burning Rubbish Kills'. Others videoed the action, and those with local accents presented their case to the local media. Police were called and threatened people with breach of the peace, which just showed as usual that they don't know what that means, and protesters happily ignored them. After a cold hour, joking about doing a radio interview through a walkie-talkie, they did photo poses and then carefully descended, with no arrests.

Contact: CAIR of TAPP.

HOCKLEY EVICTION ALERT!

On the 19th October, Countryside Properties gained a possession order for the site occupied by protestors at Hockley. The threatened site, situated between two Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation contains highly endangered protected wildlife such as bats and great crested newts. Ironically the developers Countryside Residential, are corporate sponsors of the Essex Wildlife Trust, as are local planning authority, Rochford District Council.

Plans to build new houses for private ownership gained approval from Rochford District Council this summer despite claims of errors in the planning documents. Campaigners plan to appeal the possession order and there is a 7 day stay of execution, but ultimately an eviction is likely soon. Contact: Campaign Against Silly Houses 01702 206353 (office) 0831 717815 (site Mobile)

DISCLAIMER: These pages are in no way meant to encourage you to rant, rage or revolt. Please start your xmas shopping now, and plan how to spend your lottery winnings.

HOY YA TOMAHAWKS OWER ERE HINNIES!

Kind readers, we welcome you to the new editors and implore you to let us know if owt happens down your way. Please phone, post or e-mail us if you do any actions against the global capitalist scam system. Also please tell us if we doe owt rang or irritating. Ideas and MONEY gratefully received, we won't spend any of it on dog. GAN CANNY, next edition will look forward to the Venerable Bede's miscalculated millennium and how we can celebrate a Goodie not knowing his sums. ANY IDEAS? HAWAY LETS BE CREATIVE AND BUG THE FUCK OUT OF THEM

"We are seeking an explanation for this 'progress' that goes against life."

"We are demanding that this kind of progress stop, that oil exploitation in the heart of the Earth is halted, that the deliberate bleeding of the Earth stop..."

"We ask that our brothers and sisters from other races and cultures write in the struggle that we are undertaking..."

"We believe that this struggle has to become a global crusade to defend life..."

- Statement of the U'wa people, 1998

ACTIONS FOR THE U'WA

The U'wa are a totally unassimilated indigenous community fighting to protect their culture and homeland in the cloud forests of Colombia from oil drilling. The U'wa are so adamantly opposed to oil development that they have vowed to commit mass suicide rather than allow their lands to be desecrated. Regardless, on September 21 the Colombian government granted a drilling permit to US oil company Occidental Petroleum.

Activists in 26 cities, (10 countries) around the world chose Oct 12th, the anniversary of the European invasion of the Americas, as a day to take action on behalf of the U'wa. Banners were hung, consulates stormed, demonstrations held in cities ranging from Prague to San Francisco and a solidarity statement was made from the Narmada Valley Satyagraha.

The U'wa have put out a call for supporters to take whatever action possible, magnifying the U'wa message till the world is forced to listen. International contact: Rainforest Action Network in San Francisco. ran@ran.org, www.ran.org.

PRESMENNAN WOODS – CAMP BEING SET UP

A camp is about to be set up in Presmennan Woods, bodies and tat are needed now! It was thought that this beautiful ancient woodland on the east coast of Scotland was saved after a previous camp and sustained no-compromise local campaign halted the cutting of trees. But now 300 trees are due to be felled this winter, beginning in November, to be sold as timber by A & J Scott. Contact: 01368 859630 for details.

MUMIA MUST LIVE!

Please join the International Campaign for Justice by joining the demonstration on 6 November 1999 at Trafalgar Square, London, at 2pm prompt ready to move elsewhere.

"Don't tell me about the valley of the shadow of death I live there," - Mumia Abu Jamal.

Mumia Abu Jamal has been on death row for over fifteen years having been framed for the murder of a police officer. In truth he is under threat of death because of his political beliefs and action. He fearlessly criticised the racism and violence of the Philadelphia police department and is a former Black Panther.

What would you have done if you knew the exact date Martin Luther King was to be gunned down? Well on 2nd of December Mumia Abu Jamal is due to be executed by lethal injection. [STOP PRESS - a stay of execution has been granted, but this does not really change the situation.] His death warrant was signed in October by Governor Thomas Ridge. Mumia's immediate response was: "This is just the next stage of the fight. We will continue to fight. We will win!"

Mumia's attorney Leonard Weinglass recently wrote "For more than 15 years, Mumia has asserted his innocence. The life of a black political activist lies threatened by those same forces who have historically urged a national system of intimidation and control.

"Nothing short of a complete vindication for Mumia will prevent yet another injustice in a history already saturated with the blood of innocents." Please send letters to the Judge and Mumia's attorney. Sample letter opposite.

Judge William H. Yohn Jr.
United States District Court,
2609 United States Courthouse,
601 Market Street,
Philadelphia PA 19106

Please also send a copy to Mumia's attorney:
Judge William H. Yohn Jr
c/o Leonard Weinglass esq.

FAO GOVERNOR TOM RIDGE
ROOM 225
MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING
HARSBURG
PA17120
USA

Dear Governor,

I am writing to strongly urge you to reconsider the decision to execute Mumia Abu Jamal on the 2nd of December of this year. The death penalty is a violation of the most basic human right, the right to life. Amnesty International and other international human rights organisations have repeatedly called for its abolition.

Even in the case of somebody who is clearly guilty, the effectiveness of the death penalty is in itself questionable. There is no evidence of it having a significant deterrent to violent crime in any country in which it is used. Whilst I have every sympathy for the families of the victims of violent crime, the death penalty is not the solution. Capital punishment does not help the families to recover from their grief. Nor does it deal with the societal factors which led to the occurrence of the crime.

In Mumia Abu Jamal's case there are still more important reasons why the death penalty MUST be commuted. The evidence upon which he was convicted is spurious. Eye witnesses to the murder for which he is charged describe a short stocky man, Mumia is tall and slim. Mumia's support campaign can show that the evidence given by witnesses in court was selective and incomplete. This must be thoroughly investigated.

As an outspoken black campaigner accused of murdering a white policeman, it is inconceivable that issues of racial prejudice will not have had a bearing upon the arrest, trial and sentencing of Mumia Abu-Jamal. There is no place for racism in the judicial system. It is therefore essential that Mumia's death penalty is commuted and that he is released or given a re-trial.

I URGE YOU TO GRANT CLEMENCY FOR MUMIA ABU - JAMAL.

For further information see <http://www.callnetuk.com/home/mumia> or contact Mumia Must Live!

FREE WEST PAPUA

October 4th was designated a national day of solidarity with the West Papuan people, who were invaded in 1963 by Indonesia, with direct actions in solidarity happening around the UK. For background information and to get involved, contact OPM Support Group, c/o 43 Gardner Street, Brighton, BN1 1UN. A national action is planned before the 300,000 West Papuans already murdered turn into another East Timorese blood-bath.

Two offices of Rio Tinto Zinc in Bristol were occupied. In the morning 15 people entered the Mining and Exploration office, ejected eventually by the police. Others leafleted and hung a West Papuan flag from a footbridge across the high street. In the afternoon the Admin building was occupied for over two hours. Activists were locked on and barricaded in. There were three arrests. Reception from the general public was good, and people got to talk to the staff about what their company is doing.

Meanwhile in Manchester, British Gas got a visiting. They have major offshore gas projects, as well as onshore holdings covering nearly 5,000 square kilometres, together with the Indonesian state oil & gas company. This is all only possible due to the 'stability' Indonesia has brought to the island with its British Aerospace weaponry. British Gas Trading denied having anything to do with the 'other British Gas'. But they refused to disassociate themselves from the goings-on on the other side of the world.

EF! CONTACTS NOVEMBER '99

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Reclaim the streets
c/o Stewards
Environment Centre
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Swansea SA1 1RY

Reading Roadworkers
R1.1 Centre
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PO Box 70A
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c/o Green Society
Warrick Road, Box 51
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York EPI
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Adrian Groups are local EPI contacts. Some of them are action groups, some of them are support groups but need more people to get to touch. Some are just people who will know what is going on around action in their area. The Propaganda section lists non-EPI publications which we think are worth reading. International Contacts are entry points into that country's own network of groups. Other Contacts are ones whose aims and principles we agree with fully or in part, or groups that we think may be of use or interest to people. For groups with addresses visit www.k2net.co.uk/ef

New additions and alterations are shown in bold

THAT DAM WHEEL

On 26th October, eight people from 'Solidarios con Holtz and Narmada UK' evaded security and climbed up the 'Millennium Wheel', in London. They unfurled banners with the slogans 'Stop the Dams!', 'Free Narmada, Free Holtz!' and 'Let the Rivers Run Free'. All eight were arrested on suspicion of criminal damage. (None had been charged as we went to print). They explained their action in a communique which we partly reprint below:

"By taking action on the Millennium Wheel we are rejecting an irrational and wasteful 'development'-based system, which does not hesitate to spend millions of pounds on flimsy spectacles while denying dispossessed millions the chance to live on the eve of the Third Millennium."

"For many years we have seen how the tendency of capital is to concentrate population in large conurbations to the detriment of rural areas, which have become more and more deserted. Rural Areas are transformed into resource-zones for large-scale transport infrastructure, production centres for energy and industrial agriculture, or for the accumulation of raw materials to satisfy the needs of large cities.

One of these raw materials which has become more and more valuable is water, which is accumulated in gigantic reservoirs, flooding towns, valleys, traditional cultures. Through these dams the powers that be control at their whim as indispensable a resource as water, they speculate with it squandering public money in order to promote corrupt private business interests, deceiving the public with hypothetical irrigation schemes and putting in grave danger the population living downstream. Emblematic examples of this type of 'development'-driven infrastructures are the Holtz reservoir (in the Basque Country) and Narmada (India)"

CIRCUS KING THUGS

On 27th October 7 people from Sheffield protested outside the gates of Circus King, which uses animals. Sheffield has placed a ban on animal circuses within its city limits. After about an hour one member of the group was on his own when a car sped towards him across a grass verge. The driver got out and threatened the person he had tried to run over. All of this was filmed.

As the protesters walked up the road three masked men ran up behind them and threw a bucket of disinfectant over them. Several members of the group then sustained blows to the head. The video camera was seized thus destroying any evidence against the attackers. Undeterred, protesters returned to picket the next day. Contact Sheffield EF! for more info and GIVE CIRCUS KING HELL, WHERE EVER THEY GO!!!

McPROTESTS

The 15th annual Worldwide Anti-McDonald's Day on October 16th [UN World Food Day] saw protests take place in 23 countries against the promotion of junk food, the unethical targeting of children, exploitation of workers, animal cruelty, damage to the environment and the global domination of corporations. There were also some events on October 12th - an annual day of solidarity with McDonald's workers. This stems from the death by electrocution at work of crew member Mark Hopkins in Manchester on October 12th 1992.

In the UK, London Greenpeace picketed McDonald's in The Strand, Central London. 40 people participated and over 4000 leaflets were handed out. Other protests occurred outside stores including those in Doncaster, Nottingham, Oxford, Aberdeen, Nottingham, Wolverhampton, Cambridge, Leeds, Brighton, Birmingham, and Southampton.

On Oct 2nd, McDonald's were commemorating the 25th anniversary of the opening of their first store in the UK, in Woolwich, South East London. Undermining this event, and celebrating 25 years of growing opposition to McWorld, activists held up '25 yrs of McHunk', and 'McDonald's Guilty - Exploiting Workers, Destroying The Environment, Murdering Animals' banners. They also handed out 4000 leaflets to passers-by. The global campaign against McDonald's currently includes a 310-day continuous residents' occupation of the site of a planned new store near Kingston, South London.

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE ON TOUR

This year the tweedy army of inbred aristocrats and lackeys has visited several cities in the UK in a desperate attempt to convince people that their pastime is not barbaric and medievally cruel, but a necessary part of country life.

Opposition to the tour has been vigorous and brave. At the Labour Party Conference Countryside Alliance March 16,000 pro hunters marched, and 250 anti hunt protesters made a counter demonstration outside. A small group of protesters was followed after the march by hunt scam baying for blood. The activists went to ground in a pub, leaving some time later when the pack had got bored and gone home.

Several thousand hunt scam gathered in Newcastle with banners reading 'Don't make us start another civil war'. A group of activists achieved a banner drop from a multi storey car park above the marchers' rallying point. Other protesters wore fox masks to face the hordes of hunt scam, whose most intellectual response was an act of indecent exposure.

Action Diary

NOVEMBER

1. Fox Hunting Season starts. Contact: 01273 622827
- 2-4. Shut down COPEX arms fair Contact C/AT 0171 251 0207
5. Torch Trident, Faslane Naval Base. Details 01436 830901
5. London Day of Action in the City against Nat West. Meet Liverpool St. Station, Bishopsgate exit, 11am. Details: 01223 470596
6. Demonstration, M25 at Mill Lane Jct 200 Trondheim Square, London. See Centre Page.
10. International Day of Action against Shell (4th anniversary of Ogoni hangings). Contact: MOSOP 0171 757 1550/ 0111 676 9665
- 11-12. Winklemore general and agenda meetings. Manchester. Ideas for the agenda welcomed. 0161 2268014 or winklemore@yahoo.co.uk
- 12-14. Adulation Women's Peace Camp. 'Remember and Dream'. Details: 01179 380746/ 01223 966668
- 12-18. 'Rise your Barriers', Festival of political song and arts, Sheffield. Details: 0114 2459183
13. Day of action against fur traders, in London. Meet Trudgill Square, 11am. Start of National Week of Action against the Fur Trade Details: 0171 278 3066
- 13-15. 'Women Speak Out', Workshops for women interested/involved in activism. Contact: WSO 01422 848952, ziggy@wso.oxfreezone.co.uk
20. Demonstration in Sheffield Against WTO 142a. First of several. Contact Sheffield EF!
27. International No Shop Day. Details: Enough 0143 2266668
27. Close down Campbell Detention Centre. Contact CAGE, c/o Note EF!
28. National Demonstration at Sharnbrook Farm, 12 noon. Contact Save the Sharnbrook Monkeys PO Box 3090, Brighton, BN1 3QU
29. WTO ACTION! 'Dale' It up Neeth Meet at 1 in 12 Club, Bradford, 7pm. For social and action next evening. Contact Perry, 01422 846710.
30. International day of action against the WTO and global capitalists. Contact www.agg.org or info@agg.org
- DECEMBER
1. Prisoners for Peace Day. For list of prisoners and campaign pack contact War Resisters International, 5 Caledonian Road, London, N1 9DU; warresisters@agc.org
- 21/22 Solstice party on Tivoli Down to mark 7 years since Yellow Wednesday 01248 752539
25. Bernard Matthews Ponic. Contact W. Norfolk Animal Rights 01503 617521
26. Anti-Hunt demonstrations. Contact: 01273 622827

Prisoners

Ondine LeVere received a 12 month sentence on 29/9/99 for violent disorder at the June 1985, Central Agent Capital in London. Letters in Italian especially welcome.

Ondine LeVere - TC 3014
HMV YOI, Remand Centre, Redhill Road, Feltham, Middlesex, TW13 4ND

Robert Thorne has been given seven years in prison for second-degree assault and robbing on June 19th in USA. Hopefully the insanity still sentence will be overturned on appeal.

Robert Thorne V577626, Lane County Jail, 981

CLOSE DOWN CAMPSFIELD IMMIGRATION PRISON

Campsfield is the UK's biggest Immigration Prison, run for profit by Group 4. 200 people are held there behind a twenty-foot high, razor wire topped fence. Campsfield operates as a high security prison.

27th November is the 6th anniversary of the opening of Campsfield, so there's a big demo. It will be a celebration of diversity, with music, dancers, street theatre and colour from different cultures, to say that refugees are welcome here! Many of the people locked inside Campsfield have seen nothing of the UK but airports, cells and Group 4 vans. They are constantly told they are not welcome, that people here don't want them. Many are worn down to accept voluntary deportation. To hear people on the outside on their side makes a real difference.

So bring music, colour, decorations, imagination and messages of hope! Meet 11.20am on St Giles (Corner with Beaumont St, post-code OX1). Bring transport (and help give people lifts!) or £2 for the bus. Demo starts 12 noon, front gate, Campsfield House.

HOW TO GET THERE:

By Car: From London leave the M40 at Exit 9, onto the A34 towards Kidlington. Come off to join the A44 North towards Woodstock. (From Oxford leave the Ring Road at the A44) Turn right for Oxford Airport, and right again at the sign for Campsfield House. By Bus: Take Bus 2B,C, or D from Oxford City Centre (outside Debenhams) to Langford Lane.

MORE INFORMATION- contact the Close Campsfield Campaign: Tel: 01865 557287; e-mail: any-lum@sable.co.uk

GET A JOB!

In response to the increasing presence of corporate nasties at our universities, there has been a recent flurry of actions at various careers fairs and talks. In Manchester, one person cuffed themselves to a British Aerospace display to make sure he could stay and inform everyone of the sordid truth about BAE. This was followed by disruption at a swanky Shell affair where activists offered attendees 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire', with a carrot, a tenner and even £20 available for the correct answers about Shell's ethical policies! In Newcastle, students attending a British careers presentation were treated to an alternative perspective of the company by protesters. Feeling the students were generally not interested in Nestlé's exploitative policies the group left in the interval (after reclaiming chocolate freebies to give to local kids homes).

WASTE DISPOSAL CAMPAIGN

Residents of Gartochar Terrace in Glasgow are fighting to stop businessman William Combe putting a waste disposal site in their street. Combe has a £180,000 contract with Glasgow City Council. Over the last few months, the campaign has involved police collaboration with Combe and the harassment of residents. Residents have fought back vigorously, blockading Combe's site on more than one occasion. The campaign would welcome help from anyone who is interested.

Write to The Residents, Gartochar Terrace, Glasgow G32 0HE, tel. 0797 99836 221.

Give your views to Mr William Combe at 117 Hamilton Road, Glasgow, G32 9QW, tel. 0141 778 2117. Business address 57 Dalkiowie Rd, Mount Vernon, Glasgow, tel. 0141 771 2187. Or contact Mr Gollthorpe, Head of Planning, Glasgow City Council, tel. 0141 287 5721 and ask what his dept is doing.

Contact us at: EPIAU, P.O. Box 17A
Newcastle-Upon-Tyne NE99 1TA
0957 4791841

actionupdate@gn.apc.org

www.eco-action.org/efau

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ACTION AGAINST AFCEA

At the time of writing, we'd had the following report from AFCEA, the private high-tech arms fair in Surrey, driven out of Belgium by activists just like you!

On the 27th there were several actions and arrests in London. The plush Renaissance Hotel was entered and witnessed a die-in, with three women locking on Cisco Systems had their offices occupied. As well as helping Bone with his Netad they're also exhibiting at the arms fair.

POLICE GO WILD AT VEGGIES PARTY

October 16th saw the party marking the 15th Anniversary of Veggies Catering Campaign. However, at about 12.30am, in a totally unrelated incident, police had been seen nearby arresting, jostling or threatening 2 youths. One of Veggies guests, concerned by this incident went to find out what was happening and was arrested himself. Seeing a friend & colleague now involved, another woman went to ask why he had been arrested and was herself assaulted and arrested, without any reply or caution. At this point the few police in attendance felt a need to assert themselves and called for 'Emergency Back-up'. Within a minute 23 police cars and vans had begun to arrive. One man was on the road struggling to avoid a rain of baton blows. On Sunday evening this person was in hospital with a fractured skull and many stitches. He was released from hospital on Sunday evening straight into police custody and charged with violent disorder and assault on police officers. In total, 12 were arrested; 9 of whom appeared in court on 22nd October. 8 were bailed to 4th November, mostly charged with obstruction. 1 charged with violent disorder bailed till December 3rd. 3 others, had already been bailed to return to police station in mid-November.

More witnesses URGENTLY needed. Contact: info@veggies.org.uk

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